

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference 60285-PCT2 | | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/US03/20107 | International filing date (day/month/year) 25 June 2003 (25.06.2003) | Priority date (day/month/year) 26 June 2002 (26.06.2002) | |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): C02F 1/72 and US Cl.: 210/759, 763, 766, 908; 405/128.75 | | | |
| Applicant FMC CORPORATION | | | |
| <p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of <u>—</u> sheets.</p> <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p> | | | |
| Date of submission of the demand 21 January 2004 (21.01.2004) | | Date of completion of this report 31 August 2004 (31.08.2004) | |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/ US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230 | | Authorized officer Frank M. Lawrence Jean Proctor Paralegal Specialist Telephone No. 571-272-0987 | |

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet)(July 1998)

I. Basis of the report**1. With regard to the elements of the international application:***

- ☒ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description:
pages 1-14 as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the claims:
pages 15-17, as originally filed
pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☒ the drawings:
pages 1-5, as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages NONE, as originally filed
pages NONE, filed with the demand
pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in printed form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages NONE
- ☐ the claims, Nos. NONE
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig NONE

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. STATEMENT**

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims <u>8-12, 22-26</u> | YES |
| | Claims <u>1-7, 13-21, 27-31</u> | NO |
| Inventive Step (IS) | Claims <u>NONE</u> | YES |
| | Claims <u>1-31</u> | NO |
| Industrial Applicability (IA) | Claims <u>1-31</u> | YES |
| | Claims <u>NONE</u> | NO |

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

In the response to the written opinion, applicant argues that the cited references do not disclose or suggest the present method or compositions used, however it is submitted that the references disclose the methods and compositions as discussed below.

Claims 1-7, 13-21, 27 and 29-31 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by US 5,700,107 A (NEWTON). NEWTON teaches a process for soil remediation comprising adding an acid and a complexing agent that includes a chelating agent, a salt of iron, and a persulfate such as one of the sodium salts of persulfate to remove pesticides and other contaminants at a temperature of at least 35°C and with a di- or tri-valent catalytically active metal oxide (abstract, sol. 1, lines 52-67, col. 2, lines 24-49, col. 4, lines 1-16, col. 5, lines 41-50, col. 7, lines 8-10).

Claims 1-3, 16, 17 and 27-30 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by US 5,741,427 A (WATTS et al). WATTS et al teach a method for the remediation of soil or groundwater comprising adding an acid-stabilized peroxide and a Fe(II) EDTA chelate or Fe(III) salt catalyst to remove pesticides and other contaminants (see abstract, col. 3, line 30-46 to col. , line 51, claims 1, 3).

Claims 8-12 and 22-26 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over NEWTON. NEWTON discloses all of the limitations of the claims except that the peroxygen compound is a combination of di- and monopersulfate, and that sodium carbonate or bicarbonate is added in a preferred amount as a pH modifier. It is submitted that one having ordinary skill in the art would know to use any available combination of persulfates that are known in the art to be capable of oxidizing contaminants in soil based on the teaching of perulfates of sodium in the patent, and to use any well known agent for pH adjustment at preferred levels that will achieve a desired level of decontamination based on the nature of the contaminants, process conditions, and cost and availability of the agents.

Claims 1-31 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus have industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

NEW CITATIONS